

**IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of:  
Bianchi, John R., et al.  
Serial No.: 09/782,594  
Filed: February 12, 2001  
For: "Assembled Implant"  
Group Art Unit: 3738  
Examiner: Paul B. Prebilic

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February 26, 2007

  
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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed October 25, 2006, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and a consideration of the response on the merits. This Amendment and Response is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination, and a One Month Petition for Extension of Time, and is therefore believed to be timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper; and  
**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.